

**CONFIDENTIAL**MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 26, 1988

FROM: Monsignor Curry

TO: Archbishop Mahony

RE: Meeting with Dr. REDACTED

I had a long and very productive meeting with Dr. REDACTED yesterday. He meets on a monthly basis with REDACTED of our priests who have been in therapy at Jemez Springs. He appears to be getting along very well with them, and I have heard good reports from them about him. The following are some short comments on each of the priests:

Peter Garcia: REDACTED feels he is building a good though challenging relationship with Peter. Since Peter had such a negative image with REDACTED, he did not seem able to hear anything he heard from him. Peter separated his behavior with minors completely from the rest of his life, and did not treat it as a matter of conscience--as something that had an impact on his priestly life. In addition to dealing with the matter therapeutically, REDACTED is trying to have Peter develop a spiritual dimension to his life. However, he is struck by how unrealistic Peter is. When asked recently about his thoughts on his future in ministry, Peter answered that he did not feel he would be able to return to active ministry for at least three months!!!

Mike Baker: Mike has been suffering from depression recently. REDACTED REDACTED put it that he has been trying to get Mike to look inside himself, and that when he does, he finds nothing or emptiness, and this frightens and depresses him. REDACTED REDACTED had mentioned at one time that Mike was one of the most outer-directed persons he had ever met.

Mike Wempe: Mike is making good progress, but he very much needs this therapy. He is most aware of his problems, but his difficulty is finding the emotional resources to control them. Of all the priests, Mike is the one REDACTED would see as being in most danger of getting in trouble again.

REDACTED

Gary Fessard: Gary is doing well and working hard. REDACTED is aware that I have confronted Gary about some of his requests, and that I will continue to work with him on REDACTED

*Thanks for the update!*  
+ RMM

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4-27-88

MEMORANDUMNovember 22, 1987

To: Archbishop Mahony

From: Msgr. Thomas Curry

Re: Father Michael Wempe

I met with Mike, Father Liam Hoare, the new Director of Foundation House, Dr. REDACTED, Mike's therapist, and REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED Dr. REDACTED reported that, while Mike has had a great deal of difficulty with the Program, he has made very significant progress in the last three weeks. My experience of the meeting together with the attached indicate this is true.

We spend a considerable amount of time discussing the confidentiality of the reports on Mike. At the beginning I stated I felt bound to share the attached with you despite his wish to have it destroyed immediately. He did not ask if I had seen the previous reports, and I did not indicate that I had. Neither did he ask if they had been destroyed. He is afraid the records will be sought by the courts at some time and that they could convict him. I stressed that, from a personnel point of view, the records constituted a protection and that, for future consideration of his case, the absence of records showing his response to therapy would be a hindrance.

We discussed the possibility of legal problems in the future. He is very aware that what he did comes within the scope of the criminal law in California. Although I do not know the exact details, he told me that there was some sexual touching, although most of his activity would better be described as "cuddling." He also mentioned that, with the exception of one boy, all the others involved are now over twenty-one. I encouraged him to contact a criminal lawyer to get a more exact evaluation of his legal status. Indeed, it is surprising the counselor he attended in California did not report him, and we agreed it would be better if Mike did not return to him.

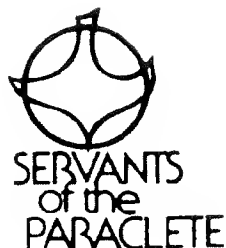
Both Mike and Dr. REDACTED agreed on the absolute necessity of his continuing in counseling. This presents us with a problem, but Mike is so aware of this need that he would be willing to go to a diocese in another state--something he would not have been willing to consider earlier in the Program.

We discussed the possibility of his consulting a lawyer who would refer him to therapy, thus putting the reports under the protection of privilege or of finding a lawyer who is also a psychiatrist. I will investigate both possibilities.

With regard to future placement, Mike presents a greater challenge than REDACTED Dr. REDACTED discouraged campus ministry for the reason that minors

or students over eighteen but who are emotionally unformed attend college. Mike agreed with this assessment. On hospital ministry, the staff disagreed. Dr. REDACTED felt this would be suitable in that it involves a transient population, and Mike tends to get into trouble with long-term relationships. Father Hoare disagreed in that hospital ministry can involve minors and can provide for a good deal of physical touching with people in all stages of consciousness. I tend to agree with Dr. REDACTED in this case but asked them to continue to discuss this matter. We agreed that Adult Education and Engaged Encounter would be suitable activities. In general, I will look for areas of ministry where we are not able to provide a priest because of the shortage of clergy.

In addition to the parishes listed, Mike mentioned Corpus Christi, Pacific Palisades as he gets on very well with REDACTED. He is most attached to his dog, and I warned him this might limit his options. I will be in continued contact as he prepares to return.



Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025 (505) 829-3586

December 23, 1987

Most Reverend Roger Mahony, D.D.  
Archbishop of Los Angeles  
1531 West Ninth Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015

Dear Archbishop Mahony,

With the conclusion of the Foundation House Program, I would like to apprise you of my final recommendations relative to Fr. Michael Wempe. These are based on an overview and have been made in consultation with Staff observations. If there are any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

REDACTED

3) Future ministry - for the time being, he needs to be in a situation which will allow him to avoid all contact with minors and also help him stay away from the opportunity for forming manipulative relationships with people who are relatively vulnerable. This does not only apply to minors and is not only a sexual matter, but fits into a pattern that Mike has been involved in various points in his life.

4) Conditions as set out in the meeting with Monsignor Tom Curry such as: no physical contact with minors except to shake hands, never being alone with minors, etc.

REDACTED



Our sincerest thanks for your confidence in our program. We stand ready to be of any possible assistance in the future. Prayerful best wishes for a blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely for Christ and His priests,

*Liam Hoare, S.P.*  
(Very Rev.) Liam J. Hoare, S.P., M.A., C.A.C.  
Director of Foundation Hous



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January 6, 1989

Rev. Michael Wempe  
St. Ambrose Church  
1281 Fairfax Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Dear Mike:

Many thanks for coming to see me last week. In the course of our conversation, I mentioned that REDACTED had called me earlier in the year about a problem he had with you some time ago. I suggested he go to therapy and gave him the name of a therapist. Subsequently, the Archdiocese received and paid the enclosed bills.

In matters of sexual misconduct or other problems involving clergy, the Archdiocese is firm in maintaining that it is the responsibility of the priest involved to assist the injured party. Therefore, in instances such as this, we ask that the priest be responsible for the cost of the therapy. For this reason I am forwarding the enclosed bills to you and asking that you reimburse the Archdiocese in the amount of \$490.

The last bill was for June 28, 1988 so I assume therapy is not continuing. If there are further requests for assistance, I will be sure to contact you about them.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have need for further information.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev. Msgr.) Thomas J. Curry  
Vicar for Clergy

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Enclosure

cc: Archbishop Mahony

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